

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An image forming apparatus, comprising

a transfer belt;

at least one process cartridge below the transfer belt, the at least one process cartridge comprising

a rotating image carrier having an image carrier surface,

a brush roller in contact with the image carrier surface,

a charging member either in proximity to or in contact with the image carrier surface, the charging member configured to transfer a charge to the image carrier surface, and

a casing, the casing including a ~~miler~~ flexible sheet in contact with the image carrier surface and arranged to separate the brush roller from the charging member; and

an exposure device below the at least one process cartridge.

Claim 2 (Original): The image forming apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:

at least one toner container positioned above the transfer belt.

Claim 3 (Original): The image forming apparatus of Claim 1, the at least one process cartridge further comprising:

a toner container.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The image forming apparatus of Claim 1, the ~~miler~~ flexible sheet comprising:

~~a seat member made of urethane resin.~~

Claim 5 (Original): The image forming apparatus of Claim 1, the at least one process cartridge further comprising:

a positive brush charger;

a negative brush charger; and

a controllable switch connecting the positive and negative brush chargers to the brush roller.

Claim 6 (Original): The image forming apparatus of Claim 5, the brush roller comprising:

a brush density less than 858000 filaments/inch² and more than 12000 filaments /inch².

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The image forming apparatus of Claim 1, ~~the charging device~~ the charging member comprising:

a charging roller.

Claim 8 (Original): The image forming apparatus of Claim 7, the at least one process cartridge further comprising:

a cleaning brush roller in contact with at least one of the image carrier surface and the charging roller; and

a scraper in contact with the cleaning brush roller.

Claim 9 (Original): The image forming apparatus of Claim 7, the charging roller comprising:

a film wrapped around both ends of the charging roller so as to create an air-gap between the charging roller and the surface of the rotating image carrier.

Claim 10 (Original): The image forming apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the brush roller and the rotating image carrier are configured to rotate in the same direction.

Claim 11 (Original): The image forming apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the brush roller and the rotating image carrier are configured to in opposite directions.

Claim 12 (Original): The image forming apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:
a first transfer charging device, interior to the transfer belt and opposite the rotating image carrier.

Claim 13 (Original): The image forming apparatus of Claim 12, the first transfer charging device comprising:

a first transfer roller.

Claim 14 (Original): The image forming apparatus of Claim 12, further comprising:
a second transfer charging device, exterior to the transfer belt and arranged downstream from the first transfer charging device and configured to transfer an image from the transfer belt to a transfer medium.

Claim 15 (Original): The image forming apparatus of Claim 14, the second transfer charging device comprising:

a second transfer roller.

Claim 16 (Original): The image forming apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:

a belt cleaning device.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): The image forming apparatus of Claim 12, the at least one toner container comprising:

toner having an average degree of circularity of 0.93 or more.

Claim 18 (Original): The image forming apparatus of Claim 2, wherein the at least one toner container comprises a plurality of toner containers, the at least one process cartridge comprises a plurality of process cartridges, and each of the plurality of toner containers, the transfer belt, the plurality of process cartridges, and the exposure device are inclined along a first horizontal axis.

Claim 19 (Original): The image forming apparatus of Claim 18, the plurality of process cartridges comprising:

adjacent first and second process cartridges, wherein the first process cartridge partially overlaps the second process cartridge along a vertical axis.

Claim 20 (Original): The image forming apparatus of Claim 19, wherein the first and second process cartridges are parallel to each other in a second horizontal axis, the second horizontal axis orthogonal to the first horizontal axis.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): An image process cartridge, comprising:
a rotating image carrier having an image carrier surface;
a brush roller in contact with the image carrier surface;
a charging member in proximity to or in contact with the image carrier surface, the charging member configured to transfer a charge to the image carrier surface; and
a casing including a ~~miler~~ flexible sheet in contact with the image carrier surface and arranged to separate the brush roller from the charging member, wherein the flexible sheet comprises urethane resin.

Claim 22 (Original): The image process cartridge of Claim 21, further comprising:
a toner container.

Claim 23 (Cancelled).

Claim 24 (Original): The image process cartridge of Claim 21, the process cartridge further comprising:

a positive brush charger;
a negative brush charger; and
a controllable switch connecting the positive and negative brush chargers to the brush roller.

Claim 25 (Original): The image process cartridge of Claim 24, the brush roller comprising:

a brush density less than 858000 filaments/inch² and more than 12000 filaments /inch².

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): The image process cartridge of Claim 21, the charging device member comprising:

a charging roller.

Claim 27 (Original): The image process cartridge of Claim 26, the process cartridge further comprising:

a cleaning brush roller in contact with at least one of the image carrier surface and the charging roller; and

a scraper in contact with the cleaning brush roller.

Claim 28 (Original): The image process cartridge of Claim 26, the charging roller comprising:

a film wrapped around both ends of the charging roller so as to create an air-gap between the charging roller and the surface of the rotating image carrier.

Claim 29 (Original): The image process cartridge of Claim 21, further comprising:

a developing device.

Claim 30 (Original): The image process cartridge of Claim 29, the developing device comprising:

a developing roller in contact with the image carrier surface; and
a developing roller power supply connected to the developing roller.

Claim 31 (Original): The image process cartridge of Claim 21, wherein the brush roller and the rotating image carrier rotate in the same direction.

Claim 32 (Original): The image process cartridge of Claim 21, wherein the brush roller and the rotating image carrier rotate in opposite directions.

Claim 33 (Currently Amended): A method for applying an image to a transfer medium, comprising:

negatively charging a surface of a rotating image carrier with a charging roller;
exposing the charged surface of the rotating image carrier with light;
applying toner from a developing roller to the exposed, charged surface of the rotating image carrier via a magnetic field;

transferring toner from the exposed, charged surface of the rotating image carrier to a transfer belt; ~~and~~

cleaning positively charged residual toner from the surface of rotating image carrier with a brush roller charged with negative charge;

grounding the charging roller;

cleaning the brush roller by applying a positive charge to the brush roller so that collected toner is transferred from the brush roller to the surface of a rotating image carrier;

and

collecting onto the developing roller the toner transferred from the brush roller.

Claim 34 (Cancelled)

Claim 35 (Currently Amended): A image transfer apparatus, comprising:

means for negatively charging a surface of a rotating image carrier with a charging roller;

means for exposing the charged surface of the rotating image carrier with light;

means for applying toner from a developing roller to the exposed, charged surface of the rotating image carrier via a magnetic field;

means for transferring toner from the exposed, charged surface of the rotating image carrier to a transfer belt; ~~and~~

means for cleaning positively charged residual toner from the surface of rotating image carrier with a brush roller charged with negative charge;

means for grounding the charging roller;

means for cleaning the brush roller by applying a positive charge to the brush roller so that collected toner is transferred from the brush roller to the surface of a rotating image carrier; and

means for collecting onto the developing roller the toner transferred from the brush roller.

Claim 36 (Cancelled).

Claim 37 (Currently Amended): The ~~method~~ apparatus of ~~Claim 36~~ Claim 35, further comprising:

means for transferring an image from the transfer belt to a transfer medium.

Claim 38 (Currently Amended): A computer program product and memory configured to host instructions and parameters corresponding to the method steps recited in ~~Claims 33-34~~ Claim 33.

Claim 39 (New): An image process cartridge, comprising:

a rotating image carrier having an image carrier surface;

a brush roller in contact with the image carrier surface;

a charging member in proximity to or in contact with the image carrier surface, the charging member configured to transfer a charge to the image carrier surface; and

a casing including a sheet in contact with the image carrier surface and arranged to separate the brush roller from the charging member, wherein the sheet comprises urethane resin, wherein

the brush roller and the rotating image carrier rotate in the same direction.